

FREE EUROPE, INC.

MEMORANDUM

To: The Executive Committee

From: The President

Date: March 3, 1967

Reference: 6 MAR 1967

Subject: Rodino Bill

Herewith is a copy of a letter from C. Rodney Smith to Congressman Peter W. Rodino concerning the proposed bill for citizenship of certain RFE (and Radio Liberty) employees.

Mr. Cline, Committee Counsel, telephoned General Smith, relaying Mr. Rodino's request that a letter along these lines be sent to Mr. Rodino. Mr. Cline said that Sub-Committee Chairman Feighan had taken the position that he did not believe Free Europe was interested any longer in passage of this bill, hence Mr. Rodino wanted a letter to show continued interest, unchanged.

Questioned by General Smith as to whether recent publicity might affect the timing of efforts to push the bill out of Committee for House consideration, Mr. Cline expressed the view that he thought this did not represent a significant consideration.

However, it appears to us that both you and Mr. Rodino should consider whether from your own standpoints as well as ours any use of this letter by the Congressman, or the raising of the matter in Committee or on the floor, might spark off unfortunate publicity.

We have therefore held up forwarding the letter to Mr. Rodino, until you can (at your discretion) sound him out on this matter. You may of course show him your copy of our letter to him if desired.

Please advise us if and when the letter can go.

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